

REMARKS**Claim Amendments**

Claims 4-6, 9, and 11-38 are canceled, and Claim 10 is amended to delete sub-part (iii). Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing application or take such other action deemed necessary to protect the inventions encompassed by the canceled claims. Applicants do not hereby abandon or waive any rights to the inventions encompassed by the canceled claims. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 4 and 5 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected by the Examiner as being anticipated by Lamerdin *et al.* (Genbank Accession No. AD000864).

Applicants respectfully disagree, but to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled Claims 4 and 5.

Rejection of Claims 4-6 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 4-6 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of Lamerdin *et al.* (Genbank Accession No. AD000864).

Applicants respectfully disagree, but to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled Claims 4-6.

Rejection of Claims 10-12 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 10-12 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Lamerdin *et al.* (Genbank Accession No. AD000864) in view of Liu *et al.* (Current Biology (1998) 8:1300-1309).

Applicants respectfully disagree. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled Claims 11 and 12. With respect to Claim 10, the Examiner maintains that only Claim 10, sub-part (iii) is obvious over Lamerdin *et al.* in view of Liu *et al.* (Office Action page 9,

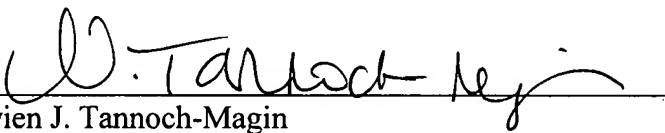
fourth paragraph). While Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have deleted sub-part (iii) from Claim 10.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By 

Vivien J. Tannoch-Magin

Registration No. 56,120

Telephone: (978) 341-0036

Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Date:

July 25, 2008